

## **SPONGES**

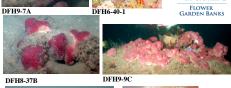
## of Deepwater Communities in the Northwestern Gulf of Mexico

Developed by Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary

Emma L. Hickerson and G.P. Schmahl

Collaborators: Kyle Byers and Douglas C. Weaver (NOAA/FGBNMS), Lance Horn (National Undersea Research Center/University of North Carolina at Wilmington) February, 2007





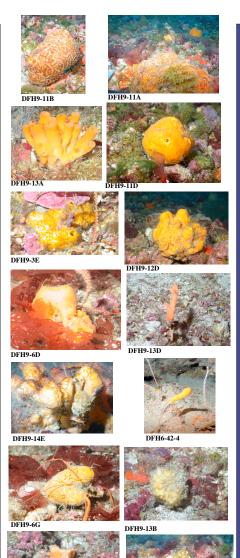


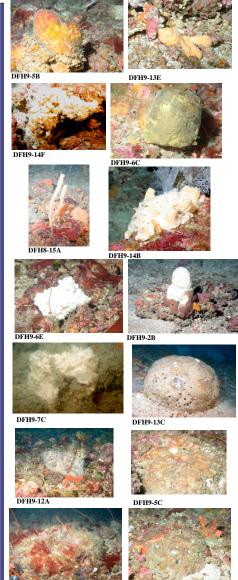




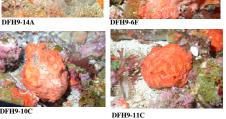














DFH9-10E

The majority of these sponges were sampled at the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary by remotely operated vehicle at depths between 162 feet and 355 feet.